A graph consists of a set of vertices V, and a set of edges E.

directed graphs



undirected graphs



 $E \subseteq V \times V$

The edge from v to w is written $v \rightarrow w$

 $E \subseteq$ subsets of V of size 2

The edge between v and w is written $v \leftrightarrow w$

... but you'll learn all this from the videos and notes, and the live in-person sessions are for wider-ranging discussion.

Arrangements



Course arrangements

Lecture notes: alg2.pdf

(This course is a continuation of Algorithms 1, which is why the notes for Algorithms 2 start at start at Section 5, and why the lectures start at Lecture 13.)

Recordings

The pre-recorded videos, listed below, cover all examinable material. You can watch them in your own time, but you are encouraged to keep to the schedule. The Recordings tab has YouTube playlists.

Live in-person sessions

There is one live in-person session each week, for discussions and digressions and for sharing the 'spirit' of the course. This is off syllabus material, and there will be no recordings. The sessions are in New Museum Site, Lecture Theatre A, 10–11am.

Schedule

18 Feb, 10am	Live in-person session: introduction
Lecture 13	5, 5.1 Graphs 🖉 (14:27) code — graphs 5.2 Depth-first search 🖉 (11:37) 5.3 Breadth-first search 🖉 (6:43)
Lecture 14 Lecture 15	5.4 Dikstra's algorithm ^{II} (15:25) plus proof ^{II} (24:01) 5.5 Algorithms and proofs ^{II} (9:29)

 Pre-recorded videos and printed notes cover the examinable material

 Weekly live in-person sessions not recorded or streamed; interactive; non-examinable

 One required tick, several optional ticks (released next week)

KONIGSBERGA



"Can I go for a stroll around the city on a route that crosses each bridge exactly once?"



"Can I go for a stroll around the city on a route that crosses each bridge exactly once?"



"Is there a path in which every edge appears exactly once?"

g = {A: [B,B,D], B: [A,A,C,C,D], C: [B,B,D], D: [A,B,C]}





PATH-FINDING ALGORITHMS

How should this game agent navigate to the jetty?

- 1. Draw polygon boundaries around obstacles
- 2. Divide free space into convex polygons
- 3. Create a graph, with edges between adjacent polygons
- 4. Find a path on the graph
- Draw this path in 2D coordinates on the map (easy, since we've used convex polygons)

Dwarf Fortress



Q: I've seen other games similar to Dwarf Fortress die on their pathfinding algorithms. What do you use and how do you keep it efficient?

A: Yeah, the base algorithm is only part of it. We use A*, which is fast of course, but it's not good enough by itself.

Generally, people have used approaches that add various larger structures on top of the map to cut corners. But we can't take advantage of these innovations since our map changes so much.

Interview with Tarn Adams (developer) by Ryan Donovan from the StackOverflow blog, Dec 2021

What this course is about

- Clever algorithms
- Performance analysis
- Proving correctness



Right from the beginning, and all through the course, we stress that the programmer's task is not just to write down a program, but that his main task is to give a formal proof that the program he proposes meets the equally formal functional specification.

Edsger Dijkstra (1930—2002) On the cruelty of really teaching computer science, 1988

- A cycle is a path $v_0 \leftrightarrow v_1 \leftrightarrow \cdots \leftrightarrow v_k$ with at least two vertices, where $v_0 = v_k$
- A graph is *connected* if for every pair of vertices there is a path between them
- A forest is an undirected graph without any cycles
- A *tree* is a connected forest



Which is a tree, which is a forest?

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- Interplay between data and algorithm
- What we can model with graphs



Once upon a time a farmer went to a market and purchased a wolf, a goat, and a cabbage. On the way home, the farmer came to the bank of a river and rented a boat.

The boat can carry the farmer, plus a single one of the purchases. If the wolf and goat are left unattended together, the wolf will eat the goat. Likewise, the goat and the cabbage.

How should the farmer cross the river?



GAME-PLAY PROBLEMS

Let V be the set of possible game states.

Let there be an edge $v \rightarrow w$ if there is an action that transitions from v to w.

What is the shortest path from the initial state to the desired end-state?

How can I train a neural network to play the game, i.e. to pick the next action along the path from any starting point?





Training goal: learn a value function $F: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ representing "how much I'll win, starting from a given state".

Gameplay: from any state v, simply pick next state $v_{next} = \underset{w:v \to w}{\arg \max} F(w)$





Training goal: learn a value function $F: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ representing "how much I'll win, starting from a given state".

Gameplay: from any state v, simply pick next state $v_{next} = \underset{w:v \to w}{\arg \max} F(w)$



value function

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What order should we compute the cells in a spreadsheet?

ls it even computable?

SCHEDULING PROBLEMS

Let V be the set of tasks.

Let there be an edge $v \rightarrow w$ if v must be completed before w.

How can we arrange all the vertices into a sequence such that all edges point right? For what graphs is this even possible?









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Each edge is labelled with its capacity (trains/day)



Fig. 7 - Traffic pattern: entire network available Legend: International boundary Rollway operating divisio : 12 each way ftequired flow of 9 per day toward destingtions (in direction of arrow) with equivalent number of returning trains in opposite direction All capacities in JIDOD's of tons each way par day Divisions 2, 3W, 3E, 29, 13N, 135, Origins: 12, 52(USSR), and Roumania Destinctions : Divisions 3, 6, 9 (Poland); B (Czechoslovovakia); and 2, 3 (Austria) Alternative destinctions: Germony Cermony DIVISION

Q. What algorithmic questions might the US Air Force ask about this graph?







Flow networks

Consider a graph where each edge is labelled with a capacity $c: E \to \mathbb{R}$. Let there be a source vertex s. Let the value of a flow $f: E \to \mathbb{R}$ be $value(f) = \sum_{w: s \to w} f(s \to w)$

- How can we find a flow of maximum value, given capacity constraints?
- Which are the edges whose removal would reduce the maximum flow value?





Q. Why did Facebook choose to make CHECKIN a vertex, rather than a USER→LOCATION edge?





Q. What algorithmic questions we might ask about this graph?

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